

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; thousands of Hmong people courageously fought alongside Americans in the “secret war” in Laos during the Vietnam War, and many were ultimately forced to flee their native lands and resettle as political refugees in the United States, including in Wisconsin; and

*WHEREAS*; Hmong Americans have lived and worked in Wisconsin for over 45 years, and have contributed to our state’s rich history, culture, economy, and public service; and

*WHEREAS*; the vibrant and resilient culture of Hmong Wisconsinites is an important part of our state’s identity; and

*WHEREAS*; the Hmong New Year has historically occurred following the harvest season to celebrate the conclusion of one year and the welcoming of a new year and, in the United States, New Year celebrations enable Hmong Americans to strengthen social ties and maintain cultural identity; and

*WHEREAS*; in recognition of the diversity within the Hmong communities across Wisconsin and nationwide, a specific Hmong New Year date is not observed and instead a Hmong New Year season is recognized; and

*WHEREAS*; on this occasion, we are reminded that embracing our diversity makes us better people and better citizens, and we celebrate the importance of cultural celebrations and learning opportunities to building a bright future for all Wisconsinites; and

*WHEREAS*; this Hmong New Year season, the state of Wisconsin affirms its commitment to valuing cultural diversity and ensuring that Wisconsin is a welcoming and inclusive state for all;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September through December, 2020, as the

## HMONG NEW YEAR SEASON

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and caused the  
Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin  
to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in  
the City of Madison this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of  
December 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Evers".  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Douglas La Follette".  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State

